MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : I am not supplying any new information, Sir, I just want to correct him simply by referring to the answer that he himself has given.

PRESIDENT : You have to take it that it has been given as the correct answer.

MR. S. J NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know what action the Government intend taking in regard to the irrigation of the fields on either side of the Vamanapuram river ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : It is a question of future action, Sir.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : Are there not rain-fed wet lands in various other parts of Travancore also ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Quite a lot of them.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Is not the place fit for tapioca cultivation which is much more profitable than paddy ? (*Laughter.*)

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I have no information.

Minor Irrigation in the Nedumangad Taluk.

34. ***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what works of improving tanks, *chiras*, canals, etc., were undertaken by the Minor Irrigation Department in the Nedumangad taluk during the last 10 years (1101-1110) ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a *pakuthi*-war statement of *chiras*, tanks, etc., that require to be improved in the interest of paddy cultivation in the Nedumangad taluk ?

(*c*) Are the Government aware of the indifference on the part of the Minor Irrigation Department, so far as the interests of the agriculturists in the Nedumangad taluk are concerned ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings, and Irrigation*) : (*a*) (1) Restoring Parandottu Konattu *chira*, Kulathummal *pakuthi*, and

(2) Restoring Kulavikonattu *chira*, Nedumangad town.

(*b*) A list is under print.

(*c*) No; nor do they accept this statement.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I ask whether the Parandottu Konattu *Chira* and the Kulavikonattu *Chira* are not even now, useless for irrigation purposes, in spite of their restoration ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I have no such information.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Is the member aware that, as a result of the representations made in the old Assembly as well as in this Assembly by the member for Nedumangad, the present Land Revenue Commissioner has satisfied himself that the said *Chiras* are useless for irrigation purposes ?

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MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I claim notice ; I must ask the Land Revenue Commissioner.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether water-cess is levied on account of these *chiras* ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Road, Buildings and Irrigation*): I again claim notice, Sir.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*), may I know whether the list relates to the Nedumangad taluk alone or whether it comprises all the taluks ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I think it is a complete list for all taluks in the State.

The Vembayam-Nedumangad Road.

35. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that the roads in the Nedumangad taluk are not maintained properly ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the owners of the buses that used to ply for service from Vamanapuram to Nedumangad have suspended their service due to the unsafe condition of the Vembayam-Nedumangad road ;

(*c*) how long has the Vembayam-Nedumangad road been left neglected ; and

(*d*) whether they are aware that the above road is not fit even for cart traffic, not to speak of motor traffic ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) ; (*a*) They are being maintained to the limits of the maintenance grants for the purpose.

(b) No.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

(*d*) No.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*), may I know the amount of the maintenance grant ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Rs. 600 per annum.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will that suffice ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads Buildings and Irrigation*): I think so, because the road is not bad and a 14-seater bus is running on it.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Is the member aware that, for the last several months, the bus did not run at all on account of the uselessness of the road ?

MR. G. B. E TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I do not admit that the road is useless. As far as I know, the bus has been running all along, till quite recently. Even now, the report that I have received is that the bus *is* running.

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